



Docket No.: BSX-214.1 CON

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
John E. Hutchins, et al.

Application No.: 10/651,992

Filed: September 2, 2003

For: STEERABLE SPHINCTEROTOME AND  
METHODS FOR CANNULATION, PAPILLOTOMY  
AND SPHINCTEROTOMY

Confirmation No.: 9952

Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Julian W. Woo

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**COMMENT ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

There is concurrence with those portions of the issued Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance that in substance reflect that cited references fail to teach, disclose, or suggest, either alone or in combination subject matter recited in allowed claims. Such concurrence also extends to the facts that no allowed claim, in its entirety, reads on any cited reference of record or any permissible combination of such references.

To the extent that the stated reasons for allowance in their entirety or in any other context are asserted in any fashion to contradict or in anyway to modify the prior prosecution record for

this application, such assertion is traversed. The prior prosecution record here stands on its own, and as such is complete in providing an adequate record supporting allowance of the pending claims and also in providing for interpretation of such now allowed claims.

Dated: December 21, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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